Memorandum

CITY OF DALLAS

DATE   November 2, 2012

TO   The Honorable Mayor Mike Rawlings and Members of the Dallas City Council

SUBJECT   City's Legislative Program for the 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature

On Wednesday, November 7, 2012, you will be briefed on the proposed state legislative program for the 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature. Attached are the briefing materials for your review prior to Wednesday's discussion.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Mary K. Suhm
City Manager

c: A.C. Gonzalez, First Assistant City Manager
     Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
     Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
     Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
     Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
     Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
     Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
     Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
     Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
     Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager

CITY OF DALLAS LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 83RD SESSION OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE

City of Dallas

Purpose of Briefing

- 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature Forecast
- Issues of importance to the City of Dallas
- Milestone dates of the 83rd Session

City of Dallas

General Principles

- Support legislation to uphold home-rule authority and provision of services to Dallas residents

- Oppose legislation that diminishes home-rule authority

- Oppose legislation that diminishes resources or the City's ability to serve its residents

Public Safety

- ☐ Secure $1 million annually for Texas Task Force 2
- ☐ Restore the $200 fine for driving a vehicle without a license plate
- ☐ Reinstate Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education funds
- ☐ Increase penalty for graffiti repeat offenders and for those suspects who flee on foot and enter into a building without consent of owner
- ☐ Create an on-premises consumption only license to allow for better regulation of the premises
- ☐ Require completion of a social service program for multiple convictions of public intoxication or disorderly conduct

City of Dallas

Economic Vibrancy

- Support permitting of unique reservoir sites

- Support a funding method for the State Water Plan that targets regional resources/contributions toward regional priorities/projects

- Eliminate unreasonable restrictions on the voluntary transfer of surface water

- Reform Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation

- Allow municipalities to take equity interest, capped at their investment, in economic development projects

- Support funding options for transportation improvements and flexibility in contracting methods

Clean, Healthy Environment

- ☐ Maintain Homeless Housing Services Program funding

- ☐ Amend the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and the Urban Land Bank Program Act to enhance provision of affordable housing

- ☐ Allow municipalities to enforce animal control ordinances through civil penalties and quasi-judicial hearings

- ☐ Increase penalties for illegal dumping

E3 Government

- Oppose State pre-emption of municipal authority in the regulation of payday lenders, unless proposed legislation provides adequate protections from aggressive and harmful lending practices

- Create a statutory right to withhold date of birth information from required public disclosure

- Protect exception of confidential attorney-client communications and factual portion of policy discussions from required public disclosure

- Allow multiple awards under the Professional Services Procurement Act

- Protect local sales and use taxes and maintain fairness to main street vendors

Culture, Arts & Recreation

- ☐ Eliminate interlibrary loan services as criterion for state accreditation of public libraries

- ☐ Foster a competitive Texas Film Incentives Program

- ☐ Promote development of film studios and media production

City of Dallas

Educational Enhancements

□ Support funding, certification, and residential housing initiatives for UNT campuses

Opportunities for Collaboration

- Identify opportunities to collaborate with stakeholder and partner organizations, such as:
  - Advisory Boards & Commissions
  - Associations
  - Business Groups
  - Governmental Entities
  - Transportation Organizations

City of Dallas

Milestone dates for the 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature

Important dates:

- November 14th – City Council consideration and vote

- January 8, 2013 – 83rd Regular Session Convenes

- March 6, 2013 – City of Dallas/Dallas Regional Chamber Legislative Reception in Austin

- May 27, 2013 – 83rd Regular Session Ends

City of Dallas

QUESTIONS?

City of Dallas

APPENDIX

Council Resolution
for November 14, 2012

WHEREAS, the Eighty-Third Session of the Texas State Legislature will convene in January 2013; and

WHEREAS, many legislative issues affecting local government will be considered; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dallas has historically adopted a legislative program for consideration by the Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS;

SECTION 1. That the 2013 State Legislative Program for the City of Dallas is adopted.

SECTION 2. That the City Attorney is directed to communicate the items included in the state legislative program, a copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A**, to members of the Texas Legislature.

SECTION 3. That the City Attorney is directed to support legislation that upholds the City of Dallas' home-rule authority, as well as oppose legislation that diminishes resources or home-rule authority.

SECTION 4. That for those issues that arise during or prior to the Session for which there is no official City position and there is insufficient time to convene a meeting of the Legislative Ad Hoc Committee or the City Council, the Chair of the Legislative Ad Hoc Committee is authorized to represent and protect the interests of the City.

SECTION 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas and it is accordingly so resolved.

City of Dallas